

# Agenda Item F.3 Scoping of Prioritized Non-trawl Sector Area Management Measures

## Council Action:

- Scope Issues Regarding Implementing Gear and Methods Tested Under the Emley/Platt Exempted Fishing Permit in Regulations and Modifying Rockfish Conservation Areas for Non-Trawl Sectors;
- Consider Purpose and Need Statements; and
- Provide Guidance on Further Development of Issues and Alternatives

DRAFT-NOT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES

## Motion 1: I move the Council adopt the Draft Purpose and Need

The purpose of these proposed actions is to provide access to additional areas that are currently closed to groundfish fishing inside the Non-Trawl Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA). The Non-Trawl sector is presently unable to access many species of shelf rockfish where they are most abundant. The actions are needed to provide increased attainment of available healthy shelf rockfish species that largely reside inside the Non-Trawl RCA, thereby increasing their utilization and economic value of the groundfish fishery. The actions are also needed to help diversify fishing strategies in light of restrictive salmon and crab opportunities, provide more stable, year-round fishing opportunity, and expand opportunities to supply seafood, while bringing financial benefit to fishermen, communities, and the infrastructures they support. The additional access might be provided by 1) moving the existing Non-Trawl RCA boundaries, and/or 2) allowing groundfish fishing inside the Non-Trawl RCA using only select gears that minimize bottom contact.

Moved by Marci Yaremko Second by Louis Zimm

Motion passed unan.

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Motion 2: I move the Council adopt the following:

Do not proceed with scoping the proposal for commercial salmon troll fishermen to retain shelf rockfish while fishing in the Non-Trawl RCA as part of this package. Consider possible inclusion of this item in the 2023-2024 specifications process, as the action would necessitate new off-the-top set-asides.

Moved by Marci Yaremko

Second by Maggie Sommer

Motion passed unan.

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Motion 3:

I move the Council continue to develop a range of alternatives that would move the existing Non-Trawl RCA boundaries, and/or allow groundfish fishing inside the Non-Trawl RCA using only select gears that minimize bottom contact, as follows:

1. GAP Summary Recommendation #1: Prioritize analysis of opening the existing non-trawl RCA to open access fisheries using hook-and-line gear, and excluding longline, dinglebar and pot/trap gear (Option 1 in the table at the end of Supplemental GAP report F.3.a)
2. GAP Summary Recommendation #2: Conduct a complementary analysis that considers how the LEFG fishermen can access their higher trip limits within the RCA, using hook-and-line gears.
3. GAP Summary Recommendation #5: Conduct a complementary analysis regarding RCA line modifications to allow LEFG access to areas of the RCA. (GAP Table 1, Options 2 and 3).
4. As the alternatives develop, engagement and technical assistance from NMFS would be appreciated on topics including but not limited to: current and future observer coverage and considerations, limited entry fixed gear permit regulations and endorsements, gear definitions, open access and limited entry declarations and trip limit provisions, and specific information on the known locations of sensitive, vulnerable or unique habitats, including structure-forming invertebrates, that occur within the nontrawl RCA.

Moved by: Marci Yaremko Second by: Marc Gorelnik

Amendment by Heather Hall, Second by Butch Smith

I move the Council amend the motion as follows:

3. GAP Summary Recommendation #5: Conduct a complementary analysis regarding RCA line modifications (Table 1, Options 2 and 3) to allow LEFG access to areas of the RCA. (GAP Table 1, Options 2 and 3). **In addition to GAP options described in Table 1, RCA line modifications may also include discrete changes to the 100 fm RCA boundary in Washington north of 46°16' N. lat.**

Amendment passed unan.

Main motion as amended passed unanimously.

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